

Judge Turns Down Rewald Bail Cut

By Charles Memminger
Star-Bulletin Writer

Ronald R. Rewald, his arms hanging limp at his sides, his head drooping dejectedly, sat motionless yesterday while his attorney argued that his massive \$10 million bail on two theft charges should be reduced.

After a two-hour hearing, however, Judge Robert Chang refused to lower the bail, ruling that it was needed to assure that Rewald would appear at his court trial on the theft charges.

Those charges stem from complaints by two investors of his bankrupt company, Bishop, Baldwin, Rewald, Dillingham & Wong, that Rewald spent the \$300,000 they invested.

For the first time, details of Rewald's attempted suicide were made public yesterday when police reports were entered as evidence during the bail hearing.

To show that Rewald might attempt anything, including suicide, to avoid facing trial, city Deputy Prosecutor Peter Carlisle entered as evidence the police report of Rewald's suicide attempt. The report included a copy of a note police said Rewald wrote before he attempted suicide.

ACCORDING to the report, an assistant manager at the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel was making rou-

tine rounds at about 4 p.m. on July 30 to make sure guests had checked out as scheduled when she came across a horrible scene in Room 1632.

The room was covered with blood, and a man lay on the bathroom floor, his head propped up against the tub. She thought he was dead, the report said.

In moments, security officers arrived. One walked up to the man and could see his eyes were open. He asked the man, who was extremely pale and still, if he was all right and the man mumbled something incomprehensible.

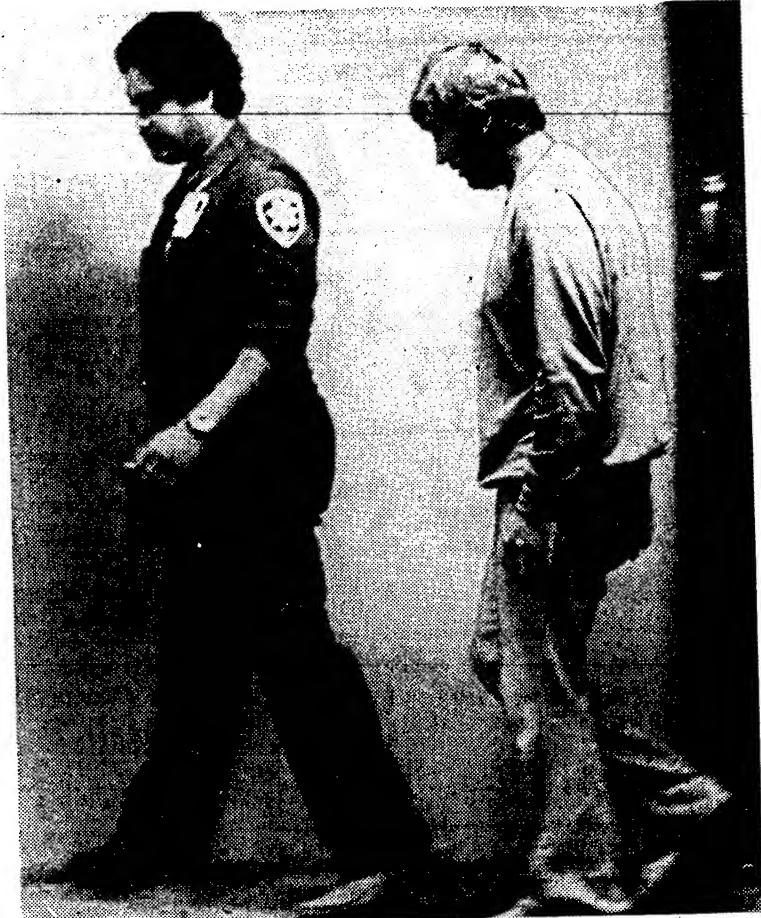
The report said that, before an ambulance arrived, a security guard placed a pillow under the man's head and covered him with a blanket. He urged the man to "stay with us," according to the report.

A bloody razor blade protruded from a case on the bathroom counter, it said.

When police arrived, the man mumbled to officers that he wished he were dead, the report says.

A few minutes later the injured man was rushed barely alive to Queen's Hospital and in the days to follow, Ronald Rewald's name and that of his bankrupt company, would become household words.

The report also contained a
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BACK TO PRISON—Ronald R. Rewald is led from Circuit Court by a guard yesterday after a judge refused to reduce his \$10 million bail on theft charges. Rewald is being held in the Oahu Community Correctional Center. —Star-Bulletin Photo by Ken Sakamoto.

Judge Won't Trim Reward's Bail

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copy of a handwritten note from Reward, which was found on a table in the hotel room.

IN THE NOTE, addressed to his wife, Nancy, Reward wrote, "I want you to know I never did anything to hurt anyone, some day I pray the truth will be known."

The note also contains a comment on why Reward referred Nancy Reward to his office would violate his attorney-client relationship.

He did say that it was personal

and had nothing to do with Bushell, Baldwin, Reward, Dillingham & Wong. Starshak is known in the legal community to specialize in estate planning and wills.

When police found Reward in the hotel room, the note was found placed neatly on a table along with \$100 in cash and two credit cards. Police investigators said the only clothes in the room were those that Reward had "neatly folded over the chairs."

Reward ended the note, writing "Forgive me" and then directed his wife to contact attorney James L. Starshak "for things."

Starshak said last night that to comment on why Reward referred Nancy Reward to his office would violate his attorney-client relationship.

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In court yesterday, Reward, unshaven and dressed in a long-sleeved blue sweatshirt and long-pants, barely raised his head throughout the hearing.

Robert Smith, Reward's civil attorney, said earlier in the day that Reward was at the "lowest emotional ebb and was 'crushed' by the experience of the past few weeks.

Peter Wolff, representing Reward at the bail-reduction hearing, acknowledged that there always is risk of flight for a person who has gone "from the pinnacle of success to the jailhouse in short order."

But Wolff said that, with adequate bail — he suggested \$100,000 — and further restrictions ordered by the court, Judge Chang could be assured that Reward would appear for his trial and also be free to help track down the assets needed to pay off some 400 investors.

Wolff said there was no evidence that Reward was a threat to the community, only a threat to himself.

He acknowledged the charges

guarantees in the process.

Suicide Note Entered as Evidence



Council Panel Okays Hotel Sprinkler Bill

By Christopher Long
Star-Bulletin Writer

COMMITTEE Chairwoman Wetmore told reporters she came to the full Council and was confident the measure would approve the measure and send it to Mayor Eileen Anderson for her signature.

The bill is substantially the same as submitted by Anderson committee's 32-vote on the of its applicability to hotels only. The City Council's Community Services Committee yesterday recommended such legislation for full Council approval Sept. 7. The last year, but for the narrowing proposal was a rare instance of The administration initially wanted to include all pre-1975 high-rises.

Strongly opposing the measure as written was Councilwoman Marilyn Bornhorst, who objected to the definition of hotel contained in the bill. She said it would create a financial problem for too many condominium residents. "Many Waikiki buildings have a mix of transient and local occupants. If this bill passes, the local residents will share in the expense."

"I just can't believe with all the high-rises in the world we can't find some better solution," she said.

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Chang said that Reward's apparent attempt to strike deals with authorities to gain his release in return for helping find company assets, implies that there are assets somewhere. A person in that situation would be willing to put up half of the money he had "to go to Shangri-la — wherever that is — with the rest," Chang said.

Attorney Smith said Reward is not seeking an agreement to avoid prosecution, but one that would allow him to assist in the finding of company assets without losing his Fifth Amendment guarantees in the process.

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